CHEBEAGUE ISLAND CEMETERY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Sep 25, 2018

ATTENDANCE: Beth W; Laurie C; Donna D; Jane F; Denise H; Kendra M (via cell phone); Allyson S; Also, Gloria B. Absent: Ann T.

A motion was made by Donna to **approve August minutes** that was seconded by Allyson and unanimously approved.

The Financial Worksheets were reviewed and approved. It was noted that Chris Stilkey's bill is still outstanding. **Beth will review with Ann** Chris Stilkey's visit. Ann will then talk with the Town Administrator about payment. It was noted that this month's overall expenses were higher when compared to last year due to a substantial increase in the number of funerals and a rainier season requiring more mowing.

The Superintendent's Report

In Ann's absence items were tabled until next month:

Trees to be identified for cutting

Cemetery procedures at the Town Office (Grave site information)

Visit to Eastern Cemetery – Laurie provided a few highlights in Ann's absence.

-Ron Romano indicated his interest in a return visit to Chebeague. He is the author of The Genius of Bartlett Adams.

-Matt Barnes is an accomplished stone cutter and provided a demonstration.

-Stone Conservation Team consisting of volunteers provided workshops in August and September on cleaning and repair (resetting and mortaring). Additional information can be accessed at the website: **spiritsalive.org**.

-Oct 18-27 Walk Among the Shadows at Eastern Cemetery, tickets available, dramatization of stories by Lynne Cullen

Independent Archeological Consultation (Cost by plot?) and other considerations

After discussion it was decided that **Donna will call Jesse Cofelice** to inquire:

-If more than 200 stones are found in the unmapped section (maybe 400), how much will their fee increase?

-What resolution of aerial photography do they require?

-If we supply the photograph through the town, will their fee reduce?

Use of the Town's "High Resolution Aerial Photos"

Donna reported that the unmapped area of the cemetery covers approximately three acres. Many graves can be located on FindaGrave, information that Susan Teachout uploaded to that site along with Cathy MacNeil's photos. In 2012, the Committee had hoped to learn the location of graves from Jill Trembly's study but this has proven impossible in light of current changes in technology and other factors. The availability of the Town's aerial photograph is uncertain. Donna reported that the Town Administrator does not know when we will receive a

photo or of what resolution it may be. Donna recently located some markers within a grid of the unmapped section she created by hand.

Setting priorities and plans for future project recommendations

Special projects?

Monies for projects?

The committee raised questions about what we can do ourselves and should prioritize regarding mapping and cemetery marker maintenance. Perhaps some volunteers could train to reset, clean, and repair markers rather than relying upon Mr. Stilkey but what is our goal? Monuments soon become gray after cleaning. Who would supervise volunteers? Would family members be encouraged to maintain their own sites?

Beth asked how many new lots are available in the cemetery? As was mentioned last month, selling new lots is an important goal. (Again, is additional mapping required in the newest part of the cemetery or where lots are for sale?)

Denise inquired as to what our overall goal is as committee? After more discussion, Donna asked if we should be setting a five or ten-year plan?

We decided goal setting would be a topic for our next meeting.

Action Items

From last month**, Ann agreed to speak with town administrator and write up a one-page procedure** of how to locate a burial

Also, **Ann will identify trees to be cut** and report to committee

With **Ann, Beth will review what Chris Stilkey accomplished during his visit** and determine if he needs to return to complete some work before he is paid.

Beth will ask Carol White if Carol has been able to open the Town's old GIS (mapping) files.

Donna will call Jesse Cofelice and discuss

-if fee will increase when more than 200 stones are found in unmapped section?
-what resolution of aerial photography is required?
-will fee reduce if we supply photo through town?

Our next meeting is October 30 at 6 PM.

Meeting Adjourned.